Music at Convocation Hall

Music at Convocation Hall I

Eric Buchmann, violin
Charles Pilon, viola
John Mahon, clarinet
Russ Whitehead, cornet
Kathryn Macintosh, trombone
Scott Whetham, tuba
Jeremy Spurgeon, piano
Brian Thurgood, percussion

Sunday, September 16, 2007
2:15 pm Pre-Concert Introduction
by **Angela Schroeder**
3:00 pm **Concert**

Arts Building
niversity of Alberta

UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA

"INTO THE DRAWING ROOM"
Music for Salon Orchestra

Program

Lustspiel – Overture	Kéler Béla (1820-82)
Three Dances from Henry VIII	Edward German (1862-1936)
A Brown Bird Singing	Haydn Wood (1882–1959)
Kashmiri Song	Amy Woodforde-Finden (1860–1919)
Selections from "The Mikado"	Sir Arthur Sullivan (1842–1900)

INTERVAL

The second half of this afternoon's program will be chosen from the following:

L'Invito	Gioacchino Rossini (1792–1868)
Eponina (Valsa)	Ernesto Nazareth (1863–1934)
Jamaican Rhumba	Arthur Benjamin (1893–1960)
Verano Porteno	Astor Piazzolla (1921–1992)
The Dancing Years	Ivor Novello (1893–1951)

MUSICIANS

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Program Notes
by Melaena Grierson

Kéler Béla (1820 – 82)
Born Adalbert von Kéler, this Hungarian composer, violinist, and conductor was originally a farmer and a law student before turning to the study of music. Kéler conducted orchestras in Vienna and Berlin, as well as leading the Wiesbaden Spa Orchestra for ten years. He wrote numerous dances and assorted light music pieces, some of which attained great popularity.

***Lustspiel – Overture* (c. 1865)**
Lustspiel simply means comedy, and this piece is sometimes known as the Hungarian Comedy overture. One of Kéler's best known pieces, it achieved widespread popularity among concert audiences.

Haydn Wood (1882 – 1959)
Haydn Wood, an English composer, is best remembered for his prolific compositions of light music. Light music, which achieved the greatest popularity in the United Kingdom, was a genre intended to capture the interests of a wider concert audience through prominent use of melody and/or mood, shorter lengths than comparable works of the period, and the occasional incorporation of a musical joke. Wood was also known for popular music, such as the song *Roses of Picardy*, which he composed for his wife, soprano Dorothy Court. In his later years, Wood turned to compositions of musical comedy, of which his best known composition is the musical play *Tina*.

***A Brown Bird Singing* (1922)**
Set to a text by Royden Barrie, the song's sentimental tone speaks of almost unendurable longing for an unattainable lover. "All through the night time my lonely heart is singing/ Sweeter songs of love than the brown bird ever knew..."

Amy Woodforde-Finden (1860 – 1919)
A British composer of the Edwardian era who lived in India for many years, Woodforde-Finden is known for the manner in which she blends Western and Eastern musical influences into a sentimental, exotic compositional style. Reflective of the time in which she lived, when the British rule of India signified adventure and romance to the imaginative, Woodforde-Finden's songs provide the listener with an accessible amount of exoticism carefully woven into middle-class British sensibilities.

***Kashmiri Song* (1902)**
One of a set entitled *Four Indian Love Lyrics* based on text written by Laurence Hope from *The Garden of Kama*, Kashmiri Song was instantly popular at its inception. The fluid, sentimental melodies set over the provocative texts evoke images of passion and thinly veiled scandal. Originally self-published, the set became widely popular and was later released by Boosey & Co.

C. M. Weber (1786 – 1826)
Carl Maria von Weber is a well-known figure in German Romanticism. Passionately interested in opera, he is perhaps best known as the composer of the opera *Der Freischütz*, which recalled the Faust legend. Influenced heavily by the operatic traditions of Mozart as well as German singspiel and the Italian operas of the 18th century, Weber also drew on exotic musical influences such as Chinese, Arab, and Turkish sounds. Throughout his life, Weber attempted to establish a German operatic tradition both through his compositions and his directorship of the Prague Opera.

Ivor Novello (1893 – 1951)
Born David Ivor Davies, Novello was a Welsh composer, singer, and actor. His first compositional success was the popular song *Keep the Home Fires Burning*, which he wrote during World War I. Novello was especially fond of composing popular music, and his melodies are lush and attractive. He also wrote West End musical revues, and then focused on acting, often in plays he had written himself.

***The Dancing Years* (1939)**
The best known of Novello's musical plays, *The Dancing Years* features an Austrian composer (originally played by Novello) who conducts his own work at the Vienna Opera House. Intended to be a bold criticism of Hitler's Nazi Germany, some of the politics were excised from the final production, and subsequent revivals often cull the political statements further. Throughout the musical, Novello's soaring melodies contrast with the subject matter to demonstrate the dichotomy between the wickedness of human nature and the aspirations of the human spirit to surpass its limitations.

Musicians

Eric Buchmann (violin) studied violin at the Conservatoire de Montréal and at the Université de Montréal where he earned a Bachelor of Music and a DESS degree. In 2001, he moved to Los Angeles to continue his studies at the University of Southern California. Two years later he joined the New World Symphony in Miami Beach where he played under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas and many other music directors from all over the world.

His teachers include Sonia Jelinkova, Vladimir Landsman, JeanFrançois Rivest, William Preucil and Martin Chalifour. Eric Buchmann was appointed third chair of the First Violins of the Edmonton Symphony following auditions in April, 2006.

Kathryn Macintosh (trombone) was born in Montreal but spent her formative years in the Maritimes. She attended Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, and the University of Toronto. Kathryn started playing with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra in 1983. Outside of music, Kathryn enjoys gardening, cycling and vegetarian cooking.

John Mahon (clarinet) is a graduate of the Department of Music (1976) and the Royal College of Music (London). He is no longer young and over the years he has performed with numerous chamber ensembles as well as with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra as a casual player. He is also the Executive Director of the Edmonton Arts Council.

Charles Pilon (viola) studied violin with Sonia Jeinkova at Montréal's Marianapolis College. He earned a Bachelor of Music from McGill University under Mauricio Fuks before heading off to the University of Southern California's Advanced Studies program with Robert Lipett.

Charles has always been interested in playing the viola along with the violin, and during his tenure at USC, he also studied with David Cerone at the Encore School of Strings and with Roman Totenberg at Kneizel Hall. He joined Orchestra London in the first violin section (2003-04) before joining the Edmonton Symphony's first violins for the 2004-05 season. Following his successful audition, he was appointed Assistant Principal Viola for the ESO for the start of the 2005-06 season.

British-born **Jeremy Spurgeon** (piano) is director of music at All Saints' Anglican Cathedral, Edmonton. He is the resident accompanist for Pro Coro Canada and plays frequently with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

Brian Thurgood (percussion) obtained his Master of Music Education degree from the University of Victoria, BC and his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Alberta He furthered his studies at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, CA.
Brian has been a performing member of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra since l977 and the Head of the D/Percussion Deparment at Grant MacEwan College since 1981.

As a freelance percussionist/drummer, he has performed with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the Edmonton Wind Ensemble, the Edmonton Opera and the Alberta Ballet. He has performed over 50 musicals including "Phantom of the Opera", "Grease", "Evita", "Aspects Of Love", and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". He has also contributed a number of articles to Downbeat and Musicom magazines.

Scott Whetham (tuba) is the Principal Tuba with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, and with them has performed the solo works of Vaughan Williams, John Williams and Alec Wilder.

He teaches at the University of Alberta and the University of Regina. He has also been broadcast on the CBC as recitalist and composer.

He has taught at the Banff International Festival of Bands and Youth Orchestras and performed as a guest artist at ITEC 2000 (an international euphonium and tuba conference), The University of Saskatoon, and with the New Edmonton Wind Sinfonia (performing Edward Gregson and Bruce Broughton concertos).

Scott began playing tuba in the North Vancouver Youth Band, under the direction of Arthur Smith. Formal training followed with Dennis Miller of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, with further studies at the Eastman School of Music. Scott has performed the Calgary Philharmonic, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra of Peru, Vancouver Opera, Vancouver Ballet, Nationasl Ballet Orchestra of Canada and The National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

Non musical interests include reading about aboriginal history and culture, collecting vintage Pogo books, cycling and camping.

Russell Whitehead (trumpet) has released his debut CD, *Prairie Scenes* on the Arktos label in June, 2006 and was appointed Acting Principal Trumpet of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra for the 2004-05 season. Currently, he holds the position of Third-Utility Trumpet with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, free lances with many of the ensembles in Edmonton, adjudicates throughout Alberta and teaches at the University of Alberta, King's University College and through his home.

Upcoming Events

21 Friday, 8:00 pm
Music at Convocation Hall II
Martin Riseley, violin
Janet Scott Hoyt, piano
Works by Enesco, Fauré and Ravel
Admission: $20/adult, $15/senior, $10/student. Advance tickets are available exclusively at TIX on the Square, 420-1757

22 Saturday, 8:00 pm
Indian Music Ensemble
Sharmila Mathur, Director
Admission: $15/adult, $10/senior
Advance tickets are available exclusively at TIX on the Square, 420-1757

24 Monday, 8:00 pm
New Music Visiting Artist
Martijn Tellinga, Composer
Studio 27, Fine Arts Building
Admission: $20/adult, $15/senior, $10/student. Tickets are available exclusively at the door

30 Sunday, 3:00 pm
Music Alumni In Concert
Featuring Alexandra Munn (Professor Emerita), piano, and music alumni in a variety of chamber works with the University of Alberta
Mixed Chorus Alumni Choir
Jamie Burns, Conductor
Admission: $15/adult; $10/stud/sen
Tickets are available at the door

30 Sunday, 8:00 pm
University Symphony Orchestra
Tanya Prochazka, Conductor
Tchaikovsky *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture*; Vivaldi *Concerto in G Major RV 413 for cello and strings*
Soloist: Kathleen Ludwig, cello
Stravinsky *The Firebird Suite*
1919 version
Admission: $15/adult, $10/stud/sen
Advance tickets are available exclusively at TIX on the Square, 420-1757

October
1 Monday, 12:00 pm
Music at Noon, Convocation Hall
Student Recital Series
Featuring students from the Department of Music
Free admission

5 Friday, 8:00 pm
Music at Convocation Hall I
Guillaume Tardif, violin
Roger Admiral, piano
Viennese School
Admission: $20/adult, $15/senior, $10/student. Advance tickets are available exclusively at TIX on the Square, 420-1757

10 Wednesday, 4:30 pm
Open Seminar
Distinguished Visiting Professor
John Hopkins
"The Three D's: Dedication, Doggedness and Making a Difference"
Free admission

department of Music

Unless otherwise indicated
Convocation Hall, Arts Building, University of Alberta
Please note: All concerts and events are subject to change without notice. Please call 492-0601 to confirm concerts (after office hours a recorded message will inform you of any changes to our schedule).